

FY 2004 WHIP Activities

Number of Applications Received . . .	20
Number of Applications Contracted . . .	7
Dollar Amount Approved.	\$60,773
Acres Under Contract.	503.9

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary

program that encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitat areas on their property.

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), a voluntary program offers landowners technical and financial support to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property.

FY 2004 WRP Activities

Type Approved	Approved Funding	Acres Treated
30-Year	\$87,053	53
30-Year	\$360,750	135
Perpetual	\$401,151	331.5
Perpetual	\$536,000	165
Perpetual	\$271,104	97
Total	\$1,656,058	781.5

The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) is a voluntary program that helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. It provides matching funds to State, Tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations with existing farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land.

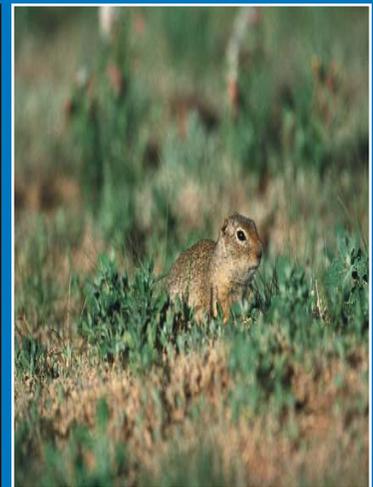
FY 2004 FRPP Activities

Entity	County	Type	Acres	Federal Share
Colorado Cattlemen's Ag Land Trust	Saguache	Ranch	905	\$482,032
Trust for Public Land	Saguache	Farm	1,240	\$224,400
Total			2,145	\$706,432

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), reauthorized in the 2002 Farm Bill, provides a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. It provides financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP may cost share up to 75% of the costs of certain conservation practices.

FY 2004 EQIP Contract Funding in the Rio Grande River Watershed

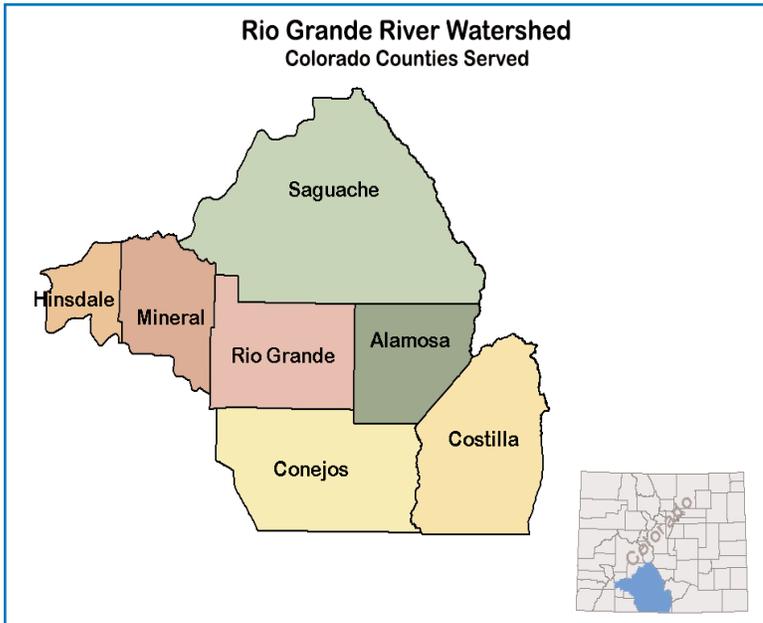
Natural Resource Concerns	Applications Received	Applications Contracted	\$ Amount Approved
Water Quality	180	39	\$1,038,804
Soil Erosion	11	2	\$30,101
Grassland	47	23	\$128,100
Riparian	19	9	\$101,095
Wildlife	19	3	\$37,514
Acequias/vara strips	65	50	\$129,192
CNMP	2	2	\$1,000
Ground and Surface Water	144	42	\$922,634
Total	487	170	\$2,388,440



Rio Grande River Watershed

What is a Watershed? A watershed is the land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed. You and everyone in your watershed are part of the watershed community.

Colorado's Watershed Approach: Instead of the traditional statewide approach in addressing priority resource issues like soil erosion, water quality, grazing lands, wildlife, and animal waste, NRCS looks to Colorado's ten watershed work groups to identify local resource needs and priorities. These work groups meet annually to determine which natural resource concerns are most prevalent in their communities. In turn, NRCS focuses its resources on addressing those concerns. Colorado's local conservation districts provide leadership in this effort to foster increased decision making at the local level.



Resources at Work in the Rio Grande River Watershed



The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners restore and protect grasslands, including rangeland and pastureland, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. It emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland under the greatest threat of conversion.

4,794,870 Acres

Land Use	Acres
Irrigated Cropland	400,000
Non-Irrigated Cropland	50,000
Rangeland	1,400,000
Irrigated Hay & Pasture	248,936
Non-Irrigated Hay & Pasture	10,000
Forest Land	180,000
Urban	8,800
Conservation Reserve Program	1
Federal Lands	2,412,133
Other	85,000

FY 2004 GRP Statewide Activity

Applications Received	353
Applications Contracted	7
Dollars Approved	\$2,250,000
Acres Under Contract	9,066